(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government have reviewed the functioning of subsidy scheme for shipbuilding; and

(e) if so, the progress made by shipping industry since inception of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Apex Committee on Shipbuilding constituted by this Ministry, had recommended grant of infrastructure status to the Shipbuilding and Ship repair industry, Action to consider the recommendation of the Committee has already been initiated.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Hindustan Shipyard Limited obtained orders for the construction of one Bulk Carrier and one Passenger-cum-Cargo vessel; and cochin shipyard Limited also obtained order for the construction of one crude Oil Tanker since the inception of the scheme.

Issue of bonds by IWAI

1082. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Inland Waterways Authority of India is going to issue bonds for mobilising funds;

(b) if so, when this issue is likely to be opened for subscription; and

(c) what will be the conditions attached to the bonds to be issued and the total amount of the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The issue of bonds necessitate amendment to the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), Act, 1985 so as to statutorily empower IWAI to borrow and mobilise funds from the market by raising bonds. An amendment Bill to amend the IWAI Act, 1985 is likely to be introduced in the Parliament in the current session. Hence the opening of the issue for subscription would be considered after amendment to the Act.

(c) The modalities and other conditions for mobilisation of funds through bonds are being simultaneously worked out.

Inland Waterways system in the country

1083. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the existing inland waterways system operational in country;

(b) the length of each of the waterways system;

(c) whether Government propose to introduce inland waterways transportations on new routes also; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) There are three National waterways namely:-

(1) The Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system from Allahabad to Haldia (1620) Km)

(2) The river Brahmaputra stretch from Dhubri to Sadiya (891 Km)

(3) The West Coast Canal from Kollam to Kottapuram along with Champakara Canal and Udyogamandal Canal (205 Km)

In addition following waterways in the coastal states of Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Maharashtra and West Bengal are also operational:-

(1) West Coast Canal (non-declared portion) in Kerala (291 Km)

(2) Kakinada & Eluru canals in A.P (189 Km)

(3) Mandovi, Zuari rivers and Camberjua Canal in Goa (93 Km)

(4) Mumbai waterways (151 Km)

(5) Sunderbans waterways in W.B (191 Km)

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Techno-economic feasibility studies have been conducted on remaining 7 waterways viz. (1) The Sunderbans, (2) The Godavari, (3) The Krishna, (4) The Mahanadi, (5) The Narmada, (6) The Mandovi, Zuari rivers and Cumberjua Canal in Goa and (7) The Tapi identified by the National Transport Policy Committee for development; and on some other waterways namely